

Note: The Education Report can be viewed online at <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/news/report/>



Issue No. 41

In The News

\$7.7 Million Seismic Work Part of Delta Schools Upgrade

Port McNeill & Port Hardy StrongStart BC Centres Open

First Agreement Signed for Burnaby Aboriginal Success

Rasset Strongstart BC Centre Open for Preschoolers

Groundbreaking for New, Greener Duchess Park School

Message from Minister Shirley Bond

Among the most useful lessons to teach children are the habits of healthy eating and regular exercise. The benefits are many and last a lifetime.

That's why the Province continues to support healthy schools through policies, programs and strategic investments. For example, we have invested \$3.8 million in physical education equipment and have now mandated daily physical activity for all K-12 students effective September 2008.

This strategy to promote physical activity complements earlier efforts to encourage healthy eating. In fact, this government created Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools to ban the sale of junk food and give students more healthy choices, and then supported schools in implementing the guidelines. At the same time, the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program was expanded.

From new legislation making school property tobacco-free to the ActionSchoo! BC program that now includes all 60 B.C. school districts, a variety of B.C. initiatives are giving students the environment and tools they need to be healthy, now and for the long term.

Of course, we also need your help, and the time to start is now. Please help the young people in your life participate in a physical activity and enjoy the benefits of healthy living. More information and great ideas are available on the ActNow BC website <http://www.actnowbc.ca/>. Read more. View photos.



Honourable Shirley Bond, Minister of Education

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Links

- Media Room
- StrongStart BC
- LearnNow BC
- School Choices
- Healthy Schools
- RoadNow BC
- School District Visits

B.C. Backs Active Healthy Kids

The Province recently helped the YMCA in Prince George host an Active Healthy Kids Day event promoting exercise, activity and healthy living. The Ministry of Education and its partners were on hand at an information booth to give parents and children ideas on how to incorporate 30 minutes of daily physical activity into their lives. Read more.



Minister Bond joins 3rd Stefania of 2010 champions representing ActNow BC and Sue MacDonald of ActionSchoo! BC at the information booth in Prince George, June 1, 2008.

HOT TOPIC

The recent tragic events in China have been an important reminder to governments around the world that investments in seismic upgrades are invaluable.

In B.C., student safety has always been a top government priority. In fact, in March 2005, the Ministry of Education announced a \$1.5-billion seismic mitigation program to upgrade schools. This is the most comprehensive seismic plan ever by a government in this province.

The Ministry of Education is also working with school districts to address the highest priority schools first, and to find ways to move seismic upgrades along more quickly. As well, new and replacement schools in seismic zones have been built to meet the latest engineering practices.

By the end of 2008-09, the Province will have invested more than \$3.1 billion in school capital and maintenance projects across British Columbia. This is in addition to government's 15-year, \$1.5-billion seismic mitigation program. [Read more.](#)

Reading Corner

What's a tired mouse to do after a full day of playing with all the other animals on the farm? Crawl into bed, of course, and enjoy a story read aloud by loving parents. Strong prose with fun sounds and rhymes alongside sweet illustrations that appear almost three-dimensional make this book, suitable for young readers aged 2-5, a favourite with preschoolers and parents or caregivers alike. The Province will give copies to families who attend Ready, Set, Learn open houses this fall.



Busy Little Mouse
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Illustrated by Kim Fernandes

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